CONNECTICUT COLLEGE
LIBRARY
NEW LONDON, CONN.

NATURE CONSERVATION NEWS

STACKS
APR 30 '56

"There is something wrong with any man who does not spend part of his life serving far and fundamental causes. That is the least contribution he can afford, to the immortality of his culture. It is, indeed, this sense of participation in a continuum which distinguishes civilized man from savages --prehistoric or contemporary."

--Rexford G. Tugwell

Volume 2 - Number 2

July 1952

THE NATURE CONSERVANCY
1840 MINTWOOD PLACE, N. W.
WASHINGTON 9, D. C.

I N T E R N A T I O N A L

CARACAS, VENEZUELA will be the site of the 3rd session of the International Union for the Protection of Nature, Sept. 3-9. The main topics are as follows:

(1) Hydro-electric energy and the protection of nature.
(2) Preservation of wild fauna in semi-arid regions.
(3) Additional themes, including: A. The problem of burning. B. Preservation of species endemic in small islands, particularly in the Carribean. C. Raising rare animals in semi-captivity outside their natural habitat.

All Nature Conservancy members planning to attend should notify us.

THE BULLETIN of the International Union for the Protection of Nature for March, 1952, reports many parts of the world where "Nature is threatened" and where "Nature is protected". The four-page bulletin, resembling Nature Conservation News, reports briefly much international material of interest to conservationists. It is available for $1 a year from IUPN headquarters, 42 Rue Montoyer, Brussels, Belgium.

A COMMISSION ON PUBLIC INFORMATION of the IUPN has been created with offices at 1214 16th St., N.W., Washington 6, D.C. News sheets are to be released periodically. The first has just been issued and has been sent to all cooperating organizations of the Nature Conservancy. Richard W. Westwood, president of the American Nature Association, has been named president of the Commission.

CHARCOAL IN COSTA RICA greets the eye of travelers on the Pan American Highway through the Copey Oak Forests now made accessible to lumbermen and charcoal producers. Prodigal use of fire for clearing is evidenced by many blackened mountain slopes. A large tract set aside by the government as a protected area was soon violated by lumbermen, some said to be influential in the government.

N A T I O N A L

ALASKAN protection of the bald eagle will help conserve this subject of our national emblem (and who would want a dodo-like bird for a symbol?). Until now, there has been a bounty on bald eagles in Alaska; now they are protected at all times except when committing damage. The Alaska Game Commission and the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service both recommended this conservation measure.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA is the scene of conflicting interests. Highway planners desire to use the 90-acre Theodore Roosevelt Island sanctuary as a stepping stone for bridging the Potomac River. The park was purchased for $364,000 as a memorial to the pioneer conservationist. The bridge would ruin it as a sanctuary, the Roosevelt Memorial Assn. says.

INDIANA dunes on Lake Michigan are critically located between expanding cities. The Conservation Council of Chicago proposes preservation of the remaining 5 miles of undeveloped shoreline. Factories and real

INDIANA (cont.)
estate developments are encroaching upon the alternating ridges and marshes which harbor unique living forms and tell the facinating geologic story of changes in Lake Michigan. The area is close to Chicago and Gary and is a favorite spot for those who seek the out-of-doors. The scene of some of the first ecological studies, it has ever since been in continuous use by scientists.

"It is a sad commentary on the American public that esthetic, scientific, and recreational values near metropolitan centers are usually underestimated until too late to provide for them, and the area under discussion serves as a classical example", says the Conservation Council.

MASSACHUSETTS moves forward in preserving distinctive habitats as the Allen Bird Club of Springfield secures a hundred acres of flood plain along the Connecticut River as a wildlife refuge. These Longmeadow Flats are widely known as a prize area for seeing certain southern birds near their northern limits and for observing other species in migration. However, the area is already threatened by plans for a new dam down stream in Connecticut.

MONTANA's Bob Marshall Wilderness Area in the Lewis and Clark National Forest, renowned for its large variety of big mammals and its spectacular scenery, has probably been saved from serious harm by the action of Secretary of the Interior Chapman. He ordered the Bureau of Reclamation to cease investigations for the proposed Sun Butte Reservoir there.

NEW JERSEY will secure Island Beach as a park. This strip of 10 miles of dunes between the ocean and Barnegat Bay is a treasure chest of natural history. A bill passed by the State Legislature in late March makes the purchase possible and brings success to a seven-year effort that seemed hopeless at times. Real estate promoters sought the area for private development. The conservationists who wrote letters and worked so hard (including many Nature Conservancy members) deserve a real hand. In the words of Mrs. Herbert E. Carnes, a Conservancy member and president of the New Jersey Audubon Society:

"If you don't think your letters and telegrams helped. . .read the following. We quote Assemblywoman Savage--'I was opposed to the bill, but an avalanch of mail caused me to change my mind about fighting state purchase of this tract'. The same thing happened to Senator Mathis, long known as the bill's strongest opponent. He, too, was snowed under with letters and telegrams and later voted for the bill without changes of any kind.

"Bless everyone of you who helped accomplish this miracle. 'Faith is to believe what we cannot see. The reward of faith is to see what we believe come true'! "

SUCCESS IN THE MAKING

The Nature Conservancy has helped achieve respite for grazed park lands in southern California. Grazing of Cuyamaca State Park will be ended in 4 years. The following statement was read to the California State Park Commission on May 16, 1952, by Mrs. Leroy J. Anderson, Nature Conservancy representative in southern California and Conservation Chairman of the Federation of Women's Clubs, Los Angeles District (30,000 women in five counties).

". . .I would like to ask the State Park Commission to balance against the request for grazing privileges the evidence that the wild animals are having an increasingly difficult time to live as we and our domestic animals crowd them out. We have here . . .a park which seems to be quite large. However, with our increasing population the park is needed for the purposes for which it was purchased by the citizens. The Nature Conservancy seeks to secure and set aside just such areas for their natural value and for the scientific value of studying wild plants and animals in natural habitat not too much disturbed by man. One doesn't have to be a scientist to value the sight of wild life and growth where it belongs. This is the experience our children enjoy and from which they profit greatly. Areas not heavily used by man and his domestic animals are not wastelands; they are becoming precious rarities. Areas reserved in their natural state are not locked up any more than a textbook is locked. A valuable reference book may be used by a few people but that is no reason for destroying the book. . ."

Indications are that following the Cuyamaca case there will be no more grazing in California state parks, a distinct victory. Other Conservancy members who took part in opposing grazing in the park included Guy L. Fleming of Torrey Pines Assn. and Dr. Harold C. Bradley, representing the Sierra Club.

SEQUEL TO SUCCESS

The preceding issue of Nature Conservation News reported the formation of the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, a non-profit organization dedicated to preservation of areas of geologic, biologic, scenic, and historic interest. The 25-acre tract mentioned as being sought has now been acquired and named the Jennings Blazing Star Prairie in honor of O.E.Jennings, Director Emeritus of Carnegie Museum, a great conservationist and member of the Nature Conservancy.

Late in 1951 the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy asked the Butler Garden Club to raise $1500 as part of the amount to save this prairie remanent in Butler County. The Club, with the Oak Hills Garden Club, Town and Country Garden Club, Butler High School Conservation Club, and many firms and individuals raised approximately $2000 to set an example of how to 'Preserve the Precious'.

THE SOCIETY OF AMERICAN FORESTERS is seeking coöperation in their kindred effort to preserve samples of forest types for research and education. See Jour. Forestry 50: 4, April, 1952, or contact John F. Shanklin, chairman of their Committee on Natural Areas. (Office of Land Utilization, U.S. Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C.)

THE NATURE CONSERVANCY

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE NATURE CONSERVANCY will be held in Ithaca, N.Y., Sept. 8-10 in conjunction with the meeting of the Ecological Society of America. Detailed announcements will appear in the next issue of Nature Conservation News.

The following constitutional change has been proposed and will be considered at the annual meeting: Change the first sentence of Art. VII to read as follows: The Board of Governors shall consist of the President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer of the Conservancy, ex officio, and not less than nine nor more than thirty Members at Large, the exact number to be specified in the By-Laws. The Members at Large shall be elected for staggered three-year terms by nomination and ballot of the members of the Conservancy.- - - (At present this article specifies nine Members at Large.)

REPRESENTATIVES of the Conservancy have been appointed for most states. Our program of state operations has been active only a few months, but already there is much evidence of accomplishment. The representatives are as follows:

ALABAMA Herbert A. McCullough, Howard College, Birmingham 6
ALASKA B. Frank Heintzleman, Regional Forester, U.S. Forest Service, Juneau
ARIZONA Leslie N. Goodding, Route 1, St. David
ARKANSAS L.H. Burton, Route 2, Fayetteville
CALIFORNIA, southern Mrs. Leroy Anderson, 17915 Rinaldi, Grenada Hills, San Fernando Valley
CALIFORNIA, northern Wm. Hovanitz, Univ. of San Francisco, San Francisco 17
COLO. Hugo G. Rodeck, U.of Colo. Museum, Boulder
CONN. Frank E. Egler, Aton Forest, Norfolk
GEORGIA James B. Ross, 225 Oldfield Road, Decatur
IDAHO Fred T. Kolough, 222-7th Ave.N., Twin Falls
ILL. S. Charles Kendeigh, U. of Illinois, Urbana
INDIANA Forest Stearns, Purdue Univ., LaFayette
IOWA Martin L. Grant, Iowa State Teachers College, Cedar Falls
KY. Harvey B.Lovell, U.of Louisville, Louisville 8
LOUISIANA same as for Alabama
MASSACHUSETTS John W. Brainerd, Springfield College, Springfield 9
MICHIGAN Paul W. Thompson, 17503 Kirkshire Road Birmingham
MINNESOTA R.W.Darland, U. of Minn., Duluth 5
MISSISSIPPI same as for Alabama
MISSOURI Robert W. Schery, 515 Dougherty Ferry Road, Kirkwood 22
NEW MEXICO Laurens G. Bolles, 22 West Los Arboles Road, Albuquerque
NEW YORK Alvin G. Whitney, N.Y. State Museum, Albany
NORTH CAROLINA E. Gibbes Patton, 1007-A Rosehill Avenue, Durham
NO.DAK. Raymond Schulenberg, 917-5th St., Bismarck
OKLAHOMA A.O.Weese, Univ. of Oklahoma, Norman
OREGON Miss Ruth E. Hopson, Rt. 2, Box 111, Eugene
RHODE ISLAND Elmer A. Palmatier, Red Wing Park, West Kingston
SOUTH CAROLINA same as North Carolina
TEXAS J.M.Heiser, Jr., 1724 Kipling St., Houston 6
UTAH Stanley B. Mulaik, U. of Utah, Salt Lake City
WASHINGTON Mrs. Martha Flahaut, Wash. State Museum, Univ. of Washington, Seattle
W.VA. Albert M. Reese, 216 Lebanon St., Morgantown
WISC. Albert M. Fuller, Milwaukee Mus., Milwaukee 3
WYO. Reed W. Fautin, Univ. of Wyoming, Laramie

DO-IT-TODAY DEPARTMENT

1. Procure copies of the Conservancy's Request for Information on Existing and Needed Sanctuaries from James A. Macnab, chairman of our Committee on the Study of Plant and Animal Communities, Portland State Extension Center, Portland 3, Oregon.

Filling out these sheets for your locality is very important. If you don't do it, who will? The work of this committee is basic to the success of the Conservancy.

2. Show lots of people our publications so as to stimulate interest in the Conservancy's program:

Living Museums of Primeval America
A folder with information about the Conservancy, its purpose and organization. Printed.

A System of Nature Reserves
A booklet describing the background of the Nature Conservancy, its constitution and by-laws, and a four-year program (needing money!). Mimeographed.

THE MEMBERSHIP SPEAKS

Dr. Kenneth Jehn, meteorologist at the U. of Texas, believes that we should actively advertise the principles and efforts of the Conservancy on the spot in such areas as national parks where some people are enough in tune with nature to be educatable about their responsibilities.

Another member suggested that Dr. Jehn's idea be implemented by merging it with the National Park Service's trash-bag brainstorm which is helping develop the public's sense of responsibitity. Perhaps an oil company would sponsor Conservancy Trash Bags to be made available at gas stations.

EDITOR'S NOTE: We hope that more messages will come in and we greatly regret that we must cut so drastically to fit our allotted space.

EXOTICS COMMITTEE

A Committee on Exotics is now actively following up on our resolution opposing the introduction of foreign plants and animals into the wild. Chairman is Herbert W. Levi, Wausau Extension Center of the U. of Wisconsin, Wausau. (See Sci. Monthly, June, 1952 (Vol. 74, No. 6) for article by Dr. Levi.)

NEW PUBLICATIONS

THE CONSERVATION YEARBOOK for 1952 is now available. Its editor, Erle Kauffman, has done a fine job of assembling material for this first edition. The subtitle is "A directory and guide to facts, figures, and people in American conservation." We are sure this volume will prove invaluable to active conservation workers and writers. Available from The Conservation Yearbook, 1740 K St., N.W., Washington 6, D.C. for $5. 288 pp., paper cover, quarto.

THE WATERSHED is the new organ of the American Watershed Council, Transportation Bldg., Washington 6,D.C. Comparable in format to Nature Conservation News and the I.U.P.N. Bulletin, it complements both for conservation coverage. Membership in the Council is $5.

INTERNATIONAL GRASSLAND CONGRESS

The SIXTH INTERNATIONAL GRASSLAND CONGRESS will be held August 17-23 at Pennsylvania State College, State College, Pennsylvania.

THE NATURE CONSERVANCY
1840 MINTWOOD PLACE, N. W.
WASHINGTON 9, D C.
RETURN POSTAGE GUARANTEED

The Nature Conservancy is an independent member-governed organization dedicated to saving America's heritage of wild nature. Its specific object is to preserve natural areas as "living museums" of the primeval wilderness. Such tracts are precious for their scientific, educational, and esthetic values. They also afford a home for the multitude of kinds of living things that would otherwise vanish from the earth, destroyed by our civilization.

The work of our organization began in 1917 under the direction of a committee of the Ecological Society of America. In 1946 the Ecologists Union was formed to take over these tasks. In 1950 its name was changed to the Nature Conservancy.

We, the members of the Nature Conservancy, invite you to join with us in this work. Membership is open to both individuals and organizations. Your contribution is an allowable income tax deduction.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

President:
HERBERT C. HANSON
Catholic University of America

Vice President:
CURTIS L. NEWCOMBE
Lafayette, California

Secretary:
GEORGE B. FELL
Washington, D. C.

Treasurer:
JOSEPH J. HICKEY
University of Wisconsin

VICTOR E. SHELFORD
University of Illinois

G. B. GUNLOGSON
Racine, Wisconsin

J. M. HEISER, JR.
Houston, Texas

WILLIAM VOGT
Planned Parenthood Federation of America

S. CHARLES KENDEIGH
University of Illinois

FRANK E. EGLER
Norfolk, Connecticut

RICHARD H. POUGH
American Museum of Natural History

J. E. POTZGER
Butler University

PAUL B. SEARS
Yale University

COMMITTEE FOR THE PRESERVATION OF NATURAL CONDITIONS

Chairman:
ALBERT M. FULLER
Milwaukee Public Museum

COMMITTEE ON THE STUDY OF PLANT AND ANIMAL COMMUNITIES

Chairman:
J. A. MACNAB
Vanport Extension Center, Oregon

The Nature Conservancy
1840 Mintwood Place, N. W.
Washington 9, D. C.

Date.....

Please include me (our organization) as a member. Enclosed is $.....

☐ Individual ☐ Organization

Membership classes are as follows:
Regular $2; Sustaining $5;
Contributing $10; Supporting $25 or more;
Patrons $100 or more with future dues optional.

Name

Address

City Zone State

Optional:
Occupation:

Major interests:

Club affiliations:

SEC34.65(e)PL&R

Sec. 34.66, P.L. & R.
U. S. POSTAGE
PAID
Washington, D. C.
Permit No. 9388

IN JEOPARDY!

Mettler's Woods near E. Millstone, N. J., UNCUT SINCE 1690, is to be logged and sold. Rutgers University will take the 60 acres into custody as a natural area if $80,000 can be raised to buy and save it, reports Murray F. Buell, secretary of the Ecological Society of America and a professor of botany at Rutgers. This is an urgent appeal. The trees are already marked.

JOHN BURROUGHS REVOLVING FUND

The John Burroughs Association has set up a small revolving fund available for emergency purchases of bits of threatened habitat, to obtain an option, for instance. For further information, write Richard H. Pough, American Museum of Natural History, New York 24.

OVERVIEW OF A CLUTTERED DESK as THE EDITOR LOOKS AROUND

Wolves, snails, bird shot, and atom bombs cannot always be dealt with separately, nor should they be. Each in itself is worthy of attention. In relation to other entities, each will assume even greater importance. . . A resident of Alaska gives his reasons why the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service is not justified in airplane hunting of wolves under present conditions. . . A new journal, Gastropodia,* has been dedicated to the study and conservation of snails and their kin. . . The Federation of New York Bird Clubs is seeking assistance in developing a non-poisonous substance for the lead bird shot which annually poisons many waterfowl that accidentally pick it up. . . The Bureau of Land Management has announced withdrawal of a 117-mile strip 40 miles wide in New Mexico for a guided missile range, including a part of the San Andres National Wildlife Refuge. Interior Dept. officials assure that the desert-type mountain sheep of the area will not be endangered as a group. (As a group!)

The mind of man is self centered and easily scared. It is quick to sense competitive forces, being willing to spend over $90,000 in 1951 in Alaska to kill 201 wolves and 81 coyotes, and to set aside 4,680 square miles to develop weapons to "safeguard" land stolen from the Indians! Yet the mind of man reaches out into a miraculous world of rare snails and sick birds. American Legion Post 18 in New Mexico strives to preserve the threatened Gila Wilderness Area. And other minds in cool heads seek for clarification of the complex ecological problems in a world where a species must coöperate with its habitat.

*Available from Glen R. Webb, Ohio (P.O.), Illinois, 45¢ a copy, first two issues for 80¢.